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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/017,295	02/02/1998	TOSHIAKI IGARASHI	862.2098	8124

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EXAMINER

KUPSTAS, TOD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/017,295

Applicant(s)

IGARASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Tod Kupstas

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 22, 24, 25, 57-60, 62, 64-69, 74, 75, 77-79, 84, 85 and 87-89 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7, 22, 24, 25, 57-60, 62, 64-69, 74, 75, 77-79, 84, 85, and 87-89 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 6/10/2002 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/017,295 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-7, 22, 24, 25, 57-60, 62, 64-69, 74, 75, 77-79, 84, 85, and 87-89, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Marlin et al (US 5,778,377).

As set forth in claim 1, Marlin et al disclose a displaying method of acquiring information related to a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and displaying acquired information of the selected network device, (Marlin does this on the GUI display, see figs. 5 and

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8), said method comprising: a first display step of acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; see col. 15, lines 1-24, and a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen of the device window, a second information, different from the first information, from the selected network device and displaying the second information on the second screen; see col. 15, lines 54-66. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 2, Marlin et al disclose a network device control apparatus for acquired information related to a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and displaying acquiring information of the selected network device (Marlin does this on the GUI display, see figs. 5 and 8), comprising: a first display unit for acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; see col. 15, lines 1-24, and a second display unit for acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen of

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the device window, a second information that is different from the first information and that is related to the selected network device from the selected network device, and displaying a second information on the second screen; also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI), col. 15, lines 54-66..

As set forth in claim 3, Marlin et al disclose a computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing an acquiring method of acquiring information related to a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and a displaying method of displaying acquired information, the program (Marlin does this on the GUI display, see figs. 5 and 8), comprising: program code for a first display step of acquiring a first information related to the selected network device and displaying the first information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to the selected network device; and program code for a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second screen of the device window, a second information that is different from the first information and that is related to the selected network device from the selected network device, and displaying the second information on the second screen. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63

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(here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 4, Marlin et al disclose a network device control method comprising: an initial sheet information acquisition and display step of acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis; (Marlin's GUI display), see figs. 5 and 8, and col. 14, lines 15-56, a separate sheet information list making step of making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step; see col. 16, lines 45-64, (the secondary menus), an acquisition sheet information decision step of deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made in said separate sheet information list making step (the secondary menus); a different sheet information acquisition and display step of, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a device window opened in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step (each result is flagged); an all sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired; a single sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding, when it is found in said all sheet information acquisition decision step that not all information has been acquired, whether all current acquisition of sheet information has ended based on a result of

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said acquisition sheet information decision step; a sheet information list status change step of changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when it is decided in said single sheet information acquisition decision step that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and a network device information acquisition step of acquiring network device information when it is decided in said single sheet information acquisition step that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 5, Marlin et al disclose a network device control apparatus comprising: an initial sheet information acquisition and display unit for acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on a n initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis; (Marlin's GUI display), see figs. 5 and 8, and col. 14, lines 15-56, a separate sheet information list making unit for making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed by said initial sheet information acquisition and display unit; see col. 16, lines 45-63 (the secondary

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menus) an acquisition sheet information decision unit for deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made by said separate sheet information list making unit; a different sheet acquisition and display unit for, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a device window opened by said initial sheet information acquisition and display unit; (the secondary menus) an all sheet information acquisition decision unit for deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired; a single sheet information acquisition decision unit for deciding, when it is found by said all sheet information acquisition decision unit that not all sheet information has been acquired, whether all current acquisition of sheet information has ended based on a result from said acquisition sheet information decision unit (each result is flagged); a sheet information list status change unit for changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when decided by said single sheet information acquisition decision unit that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and a network device information acquisition unit for acquiring network device information when it is decided by said single sheet information acquisition in that nit that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled, and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines

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54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 6, Marlin et al disclose a computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a network device control method, the program comprising: program code for an initial sheet information acquisition and display step of acquiring and displaying initial sheet information on an initial screen of a device window, which is a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis; (Marlin's GUI display), see figs. 5 and 8, and col. 14, lines 15-56, program code for a separate sheet information list making step of making a list of separate sheet information not consisting of the initial sheet information acquired and displayed in said initial sheet information acquisition and display step; see col. 16, lines 45-63 (the secondary menu); program code for an acquisition sheet information decision step of deciding a sheet information list to acquire from separate sheet information lists made in the separate sheet information list making step; program code for a different sheet information acquisition and display step of, when it is determined that an entry has been made by a user requesting display of a different type of sheet information, acquiring and displaying different types of newly requested sheet information on a device window opened in the initial sheet information acquisition and display step program code for an all sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding whether all sheet information has been acquired; program code for a single sheet information acquisition decision step of deciding, when it is found in the all sheet

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information acquisition decision step that not all information has been acquired, whether acquisition of all current sheet information has ended based on a result of the acquisition sheet information decision step; program code for a sheet information list status change step of changing a sheet information list status of previously acquired information when decided in the single sheet information acquisition decision step that all current acquisition of sheet information has ended; and program code for a network device information acquisition step of acquiring network device information when it is decided in the single sheet information acquisition step that not all current acquisition of sheet information has ended. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, COL. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 7, Marlin et al disclose a network device control method wherein said initial sheet information acquisition and display step comprises: an initial sheet information specifying step of specifying initial sheet information; a sheet information list making step of making a sheet information list from initial sheet information specified in the initial sheet information specifying step; and an information acquisition step of requesting, acquiring, and

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displaying information for the network device based on the sheet information list made in the sheet information list making step; see col. 14, lines 15-41 (The display list of Marlin).

As set forth in claim 22, Marlin et al disclose a network device control method wherein said initial separate sheet information acquisition and display step comprises: a separate sheet information specifying step of specifying separate sheet information; a sheet information list making step of making a sheet information list from separate sheet information specified in the separate sheet information specifying step; and an information acquisition step of requesting, acquiring, and displaying information of the network device based on the sheet information list made in the sheet information list making step (retrieving information from the cache) see col. 14, lines 62-67, col. 16, lines 51-53.

As set forth in claim 24, Marlin et al disclose a network device control method wherein the initial sheet information acquisition and display step comprises: a separate sheet information specifying step of specifying separate sheet information; a sheet information list making step of making a sheet information list from separate sheet information specified in the separate sheet information specifying step; and an information acquisition step of requesting, acquiring, and displaying information of the network device based on the sheet information list made in the sheet information list making step (retrieving information from the cache); see col. 14, lines 62-67, col. 16, lines 51-53.

As set forth in claim 25, Marlin et al disclose a network device control method wherein the information acquisition step comprises: a sheet information compulsory acquisition decision

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step of deciding whether or not to compulsorily acquire sheet information (the polling of the device); an instant display step of displaying a portion of the information beforehand, based on currently held sheet information (the system can update columns and rows separately), when it is decided not to perform compulsory acquisition in the sheet information compulsory acquisition decision step; a display all sheet information step of deciding whether or not all sheet information was displayed when it is decided to perform compulsory acquisition in the sheet information compulsory acquisition decision step (whether or not the display was updated); a network device information acquisition step of acquiring network device information; a network device holding decision step of deciding whether or not previously acquired network device information is being held (part of initialization process; see col. 15, lines 10-24); a cache comparison step of comparing a cache value with a network device information value newly acquired in said network device information acquisition step when it is determined to hold information in cache in the network device holding decision step; a cache value hold step of holding the acquired network device information as a cache value when results of the comparison of the cache value with the newly acquired network device information value are determined to differ, and also when it is decided a cache is not being held in the network device holding decision step; a network device information display step of displaying on the device window, the cache value held in the cache value hold step (each of the devices is flagged with the time and date stamp, this provides the basis of determining the status of the polling, etc); a sheet list status change step of changing a status of currently displayed information on the sheet list to a display-completed-status in order to

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decide whether to display all network device information in the display all sheet information step; an update decision step of deciding whether or not to update a display of information on the device window when it is decided that all network device information was displayed in the display all sheet information step; a timer update set step of setting an automatic update time when it is decided to perform updates in the update decision step; a timer update monitor step of determining whether or not time is up on the automatic update timer set in the timer update set step; and an update stop monitor step of monitoring whether updating has stopped or not when the time has not run out on the automatic update timer monitored in the timer update monitor step; see col. 15, lines 1-24.

As set forth in claim 57, Marlin et al disclose a method of managing a plurality of network devices, acquiring information of a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information, said method comprising: a first display step of acquiring a first information of a selected network device and of displaying the first information on a device window; and a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the selected network device, the second information from the selected network device and of displaying the second information on the device window, wherein the second information is different from the first information. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and

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updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 58, Marlin et al disclose a network device control apparatus for managing a plurality of network devices, acquiring information of a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information, said apparatus comprising: a first display unit for acquiring a first information of a selected network device and displaying the first information on a device window; and a second display unit for acquiring in response to a user request for display of a second information of the selected network device, the second information of the selected network device from the selected network device and displaying the second information on the device window. (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66) also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66.

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As set forth in claim 59, Marlin et al disclose a computer-readable recording medium storing a program for managing a plurality of network devices, acquiring information from a selected network device of the plurality of network devices, and displaying the acquired information, the program comprising: program code for a first display step of acquiring a first information of a selected network device and of displaying the first information on a device window; and program code of a second display step of acquiring, in response to a user request for display of a second information of the device window, the second information from the selected network device and of displaying the second information on the device window (Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, COL. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 60, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein said first display step includes forming a list of information required for display of the initial screen, acquiring listed information, and storing the acquired information in memory; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (the information is arranged in columns and rows, as well as having a tool bar located on the GUI, the GUI further has the ability

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to bring up reports on an object by double clicking on a location on the display; see col. 14, lines 52-56, in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, the information is stored in a database the is updated periodically or that can be queried when needed, Col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 62, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein said first display step includes forming a list of information required for display of the second screen, acquiring listed information, and storing the acquired information in memory; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (the information is arranged in columns and rows, as well as having a tool bar located on the GUI, the GUI further has the ability to bring up reports on an object by double clicking on a location on the display; see col. 14, lines 52-56, in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, the information is stored in a database the is updated periodically or that can be queried when needed, Col. 15, lines 54-66.

As set forth in claim 64, Marlin discloses a displaying method further comprising a determination step of determining whether information is to be acquired from the selected network device (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information “to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI makes available “component instrumentation” code for acquiring the attribute value from the source.” (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected

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network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 65, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein said first display step or said second display includes acquiring information from the selected network device, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the selected network device, or acquiring information from the memory, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the memory (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information “to obtain current values of dynamillay changing attributes, the DMI makes available “component instrumentation” code for aquring the attribute value from the source.” (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static informtion can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 66, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein said second display step is executed if a tab is clicked on a device window; see col. 14, lines 42-49 (toolbar and GUI discussed).

As set forth in claim 67, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein the initial screen is a screen that displays a status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacturer, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a toner cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface board or

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information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 68, Marlin discloses a displaying method wherein the second screen is a screen that displays a status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacturer, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a toner cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface board or information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 69, Marlin discloses a displaying method further comprising a search step of searching for network devices connected to a network and displaying a list of the network devices, wherein said first display step is executed when one of the network devices on the list is selected by a user (a device can be queried, and polling will automatically retrieve information about devices connected to the network; see col. 14, lines 15-40).

As set forth in claim 74, Marlin discloses an apparatus further comprising a determination unit (such a device would be present to determine whether a requested device is static or dynamic information) for determining whether information is to be acquired from the selected network device or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information “to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI makes

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available “component instrumentation” code for acquiring the attribute value from the source.” (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 75, Marlin discloses an apparatus wherein said first display unit or said second display unit acquires information from the selected network device, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the selected network device, or acquires information from the memory, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the memory (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information “to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI makes available “component instrumentation” code for acquiring the attribute value from the source.” (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 77, Marlin discloses an apparatus wherein the initial screen is a screen is a screen that displays a status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacturer, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a tone cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface

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board or information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 78, Marlin discloses an apparatus, wherein the second screen is a screen that displays status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacture, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a tone cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface board or information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 79, Marlin discloses an apparatus further comprising: a search unit for searching for network devices connected to a network; and a display for displaying a list of the network devices, wherein said first display unit executes acquisition of the first information when one of the listed network devices is selected by a user (a device can be queried, and polling will automatically retrieve information about devices connected to the network; see col. 14, lines 15-40).

As set forth in claim 84, Marlin discloses a recording medium further comprising program code for a determination step of determining whether information is to be acquired from the selected network device or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information "to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI

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makes available "component instrumentation" code for acquiring the attribute value from the source." (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 85, Marlin discloses a recording medium wherein the first display step or the second display step or the second display step includes acquiring information from the selected network device, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the selected network device, or acquiring information from the memory, if it is determined that information is to be acquired from the memory (each component has a Management information format (MIF) file and is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information "to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI makes available "component instrumentation" code for acquiring the attribute value from the source." (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

As set forth in claim 87, Marlin discloses a recording medium wherein the initial screen is a screen that displays a status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacturer, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a toner cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface board or

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information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 88, Marlin discloses a recording medium wherein the second screen is a screen that displays a status of the selected network device, a screen that displays a list of jobs, a screen that displays a manufacturer, a product name, an installation location, a product version, or a toner cartridge model, or a screen that displays information about a network interface board or information about a network protocol; see col. 13, lines 9-59 (this passage discusses the getting static and dynamic information about the component).

As set forth in claim 89, Marlin discloses a recording medium further comprising: program code for a search step of searching for network devices connected to a network; and program code for a display step of displaying a list of the network devices, wherein said first display step is executed when one of the listed network devices is selected by a user (a device can be queried, and polling will automatically retrieve information about devices connected to the network; see col. 14, lines 15-40).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 3/21/02 and 6/10/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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On page 14 (of the 3/21 arguments) Applicant argues that Marlin “is not believed to relate to or even suggest managing a plurality of network devices.” The Examiner points to col. 13, lines 9-19, which discusses the set-up of the system. Each component (they are network components), see figs. 6-12) has a management information format (MIF) file that is made available for responding to management commands, this information for use with the system can be dynamic information “to obtain current values of dynamically changing attributes, the DMI makes available “component instrumentation” code for acquiring the attribute value from the source.” (See col. 13, 39-45) or a memory storing information acquired from the selected network device (static information can be obtained about the device, or the database can be queried); see col. 14, lines 52-56, also see col. 5, lines 19-31.

Applicant further argues that “information is retrieved from a central database and is not acquired from a selected network device.” The Examiner again points to the passages referenced above, and notes that dynamic information may be retrieved from the “the source” (i.e. the network component). Although information can be retrieved from the database, it can also be retrieved from the source itself.

On pages 16-17, Applicant argues that Marlin does not meet the limitations of claim 4. Applicant stresses that “a window allocated to individual network peripheral devices on a one-to-one basis” is not met by Marlin. Marlin states, “the GUI contains several features, including chain actions, accomplished by double clicking on a particular location in the display. Double clicking may be used to invoke another report,...” which implies that a report can be generated by double

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clicking on a component on the GUI. This meets that limitation. The further GUI aspects necessitated by the claim are met by Marlin, see col. 14, lines 15-col. 18, lines 54 (theses passages describe the interaction with the GUI). Marlin specifically displays a GUI that contains columns and rows displaying the status of the network devices, these devices are polled and the results are subsequently used to update the status of the devices. Furthermore, each of the menu definitions has a custom menu for each of the functions that can also be displayed and updated; see col. 14, lines 15-41, and lines 50-66, and col. 15, lines 1-66), also see col. 16, lines 54-63 (here when a browser button is pressed information for a selected DMI object will be displayed in a box (window), in addition description can be gathered for the object through the GUI, col. 15, lines 54-66. These passages meet the limitations of claim 4.

Conclusion

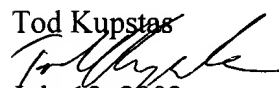
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tod Kupstas whose telephone number is (703) 305-2655.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess, can be reached at (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for this art unit is (703) 308-6743. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this

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application or proceeding should be directed to the technology center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Tod Kupstas


July 12, 2002


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